

Introduction

The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), Arizona Health Disparities Center (AHDC) mission is to promote and protect the health and well being of the minority and vulnerable populations in Arizona by enhancing the capacity of the public health system to effectively serve minority populations and reduce health disparities. The Center serves as the Federal contact and liaison to the Office of Minority Health (OMH), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Funding was made available to organizations outside ADHS through the Request For Grant Application (RFGA) process to support collaborative community projects targeting minority health needs.

RFGA

The Center with funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Public Health and Science, Office of Minority Health, State Partnership Grant Program to Improve Minority Health Grant (STTMP051000-02) awarded eight RFGA grants in Arizona. The purpose of the grants is to support new or on-going minority health collaborative community projects/activities throughout the state. The projects and/or activities are to further the goals of reducing health disparities by:

1. Targeting a major health disparity based on available data, and/or;
2. Enhance access to care for vulnerable and minority populations, and/or;
3. Enhance cultural competency amongst healthcare providers and the public health workforce.

Guidance in the award process, in part, was based on available data establishing need, OMH guidance, and the role and mission of the AHDC. Eligible grant awards amounts were between \$5,000 and \$10,000 per grant application. Eligible applicants were Governmental Agencies (counties, cities, etc.) and non-profit organizations 501 (c).

Award Summary

The RFGA grants were awarded to organizations across the state reaching many counties including: Yuma, Pima, Santa Cruz, Cochise, Maricopa, Pinal, Coconino, Yavapai, Navajo, and Apache. Total Amount of funding awarded: \$76,819.

Targeted populations include: Low income; Hispanic; Children, Native American, Rural Residents, and Vietnamese populations in Maricopa County.

Health disparities projects target: diabetes and mental health; prevention and control of diabetes; prescription discounts; entry into the AHCCCS system; oral health; injury and burn prevention for children; cultural competency; and health need assessments.

Next Steps

The AHDC will serve as a conduit to the Arizona Department of Health Services programs and community in providing technical assistance and communicating best practices around the state and to our Federal funder, OMH. AHDC will provide a summary of project results and post key information about the project on the web at: www.azminorityhealth.gov.

For more information, contact ADHS Arizona Health Disparities Center at: 602-542-1219

RFGA Award Descriptions

1. Organization: Arizona Board of Regents, University of Arizona

Target Population: U.S.- Mexico Border

Region: Arizona - Mexico Border

General Description: Professional Cultural Competency

Development and Implementation of a Collaborative Program Aimed at Building Intergenerational Relationships and Resilience in a Community Experiencing Significant Health Disparities. Develop and implement cultural competency training for the public health work force employed along the U.S.- Mexico border. This project is unique to cultural competency in the geographical target area of the U.S. - Mexico Border area and in using the concept of resilience with documented stories from the "field" that illustrate strategies used to prevent disease and build strong families. A grant deliverable includes obtaining stories from the field as a basis of teaching curriculum.

RFGA Description:

- Enhance Cultural Competency: Providers and Public Health Force.
- Access to Care

Award Amount: \$10,000

2. Organization: Asian Pacific Community in Action (APCA)

Target Population: Vietnamese Americans in Maricopa County

County: Maricopa

General Description: Survey (BRFS questions and other) in the Vietnamese American population in Maricopa County to assess health related data. The information will be used to plan future health interventions. Using a telephone based survey, data will be collected on hepatitis B, cervical cancer, breast cancer and tobacco use. APCA and ASU Prevention Research Center will work together to develop and implement the survey.

RFGA Description:

- Targeting a Major Health Disparity
- Enhance Cultural Competency
- Research health needs

Award Amount: \$10,000

3. Organization: Coconino County Health Department

Target Population: Rural with large percentage Native American and Hispanic population. Access to care - prescription drugs for those uninsured or underinsured.

County: Coconino

General Description: Through state government, community and provider (CHC) partnerships in the county, staff will distribute prescription drug discount cards (Caremark RX). This program will provide a 20-30% discount to the uninsured or underinsured obtain prescription medications.

RFGA Description:

- Access to Care Vulnerable Population

Award Amount: \$7,250

4. Organization: Empowerment Systems, Inc.

Target Population: Diabetes Type II at risk target populations

Counties: Maricopa, Pinal and Yavapai

General Description: Raising diabetes awareness and reaching at-risk population through an on-line (website) educational program. The on-line program will provide a self-assessment tool and culturally competent materials. Outreach will be conducted using multiple community partners including, but not limited to, United Food Bank, AHEC for Central Arizona, and other key stakeholders.

RFGA Description:

- Targeting a Major health Disparity
- Prevention

Award Amount: \$10,000

5. Organization: Maricopa Integrated Health Systems (MIHS) Summary

Target Population: Lower socio-economic status and Hispanic children

County: Maricopa

General Description: MIHS is home of the Arizona Burn Center and MedPro (Medical Professional Associates of Arizona). This grant will address the disparities in childhood burn injuries through injury prevention education. The program will develop and use a bilingual coloring/activity book to reach Hispanic children and families. The target population is pre-school and elementary school-aged children and their parents.

Materials will be given to families seen in the MIHS Pediatric and Women's Clinic; consumers will pickup materials at the Family Learning Center. Maricopa Health Plan is an AHCCCS plan.

RFGA Description:

- Targeting a Major Health Disparity
- Prevention

Award Amount: \$10,000

6. Organization: Navajo Health Foundation/Sage Memorial Hospital

Target Population: Native Americans eligible for AHCCCS

Counties: Navajo and Apache

General Description: Increase AHCCCS enrollment and awareness of available services. The funds will be used to hire a health representative and shuttle van drivers to assist potential eligible target population by reducing barriers in the application process and service provision.

RFGA Description:

- Access to Care

Award Amount: \$10,000

7. Organization: Regional Center for Border Health

Target Population: Hispanic population

County: Yuma

General Description: Prevent and control diabetes through education on diabetes management. The program will also work to increase awareness of mental health issues.

RFGA Description:

- Targeting a Major Health Disparity

Award Amount: \$10,000

8. Organization: St. Elizabeth Health Center

Target Population: Minority children

County: Pima

General Description: The project will assess, educate, conduct dental screenings and link minority children to dental providers using *promotoras*, and volunteer oral health professionals. The prevention intervention targets the underserved and uninsured. This grant will also assess the cultural appropriateness of the educational materials. Material source is the ADHS Oral Health.

RFGA Description:

- Targeting A Major Health Disparity
- Access to Care Vulnerable Population
- Enhance Cultural Competency: Providers & Public Health Force

Award Amount: \$9,569